

Thank you for your subscription to Rep. Dan Huberty's Newsletter. If you wish to unsubscribe, please use the SafeUnsubscribe option at the bottom of this email.



April 16, 2021

Thank you for subscribing to my weekly newsletter. Below you will find important federal, state, and local updates from the last week curated for you in one place.

Early in the week, the House passed <u>HB 1603</u>, one of my bills that ensures the use of Individual Graduation Committees (IGCs) can continue indefinitely, as they provide a second look to help students graduate on time.

I also presented <u>HB 2525</u> in committee, which proposes the creation of the Lake Houston Dredging and Maintenance District. I'd like to thank my friend Mayor Pro-Tem Dave Martin for testifying in the committee hearing, and we're hoping to hear this bill on the House Floor in the coming weeks.

Finally, this week I presented two bills regarding the legalization of sports gambling in Texas, <u>HB 2070</u> and <u>HJR 97</u>, to the House Committee on State Affairs. These bills provide an outline for the regulation of the proposed sports gambling industry in Texas, contingent on the voters approving the measure on the ballot this November.

If you have not yet been vaccinated, please schedule an appointment at your earliest convenience.

Click <u>here</u> to register for your shot with DSHS.

Should you have any questions about the information below, please do not hesitate to contact us. Please utilize email communication with our office during this time, via the email contact information at the bottom of this newsletter.

Sincerely,



## April 2021 Calendar

Download my April 2021 calendar by clicking the image on the right. This month is full of events that could be fun or useful to you and your family! This new format allows you to save the document for printing or sending to your family members.

Keep watch for these updated calendars at the beginning of each month. Important local and legislative dates and events will be posted here.



# 87th Legislative Session

# Bill Spotlight: HB 2525

<u>HB 2525</u> - Relating to the creation of the Lake Houston Dredging and Maintenance District; providing the authority to issue bonds; providing authority to impose assessments and fees.

Recent events like Hurricane Harvey have done much to emphasize the lack of authority for federal, state, and local agencies when it comes to the management of Lake Houston. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Texas Water Development Board (TWDB), City of Houston (COH), Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD), San Jacinto River Authority (SJRA), Harris County, local Municipal Utility Districts (MUDs) and Coastal Water Authority (CWA) have each contributed to the current dredging projects operating in and around Lake Houston. This has led to much confusion, as there is not one clear entity to oversee the reservoir.

The Lake Houston reservoir was built more than 50 years ago and in that time, no real maintenance has been done to protect this regional water source. With the rapid growth in the Houston area, it has become more clear that building another local reservoir is not possible and this will remain the only water source for the area at large. However, the decades of mismanagement of Lake Houston have allowed for large swathes of sedimentation to build-up in the basin. The current projects are costing taxpayers millions of dollars to remove the sand and silt and those expenditures need to be protected.

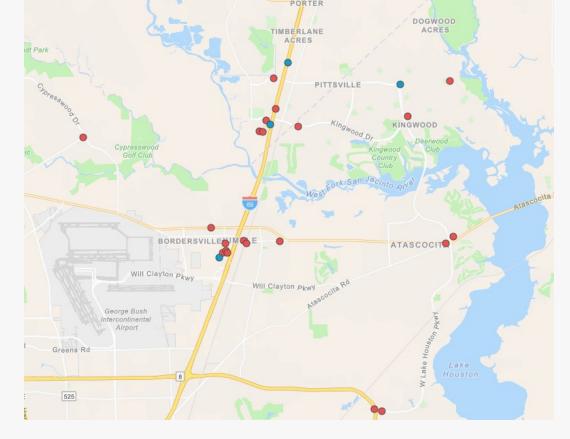
HB 2525 creates the Lake Houston Dredging and Maintenance District as a conservation and reclamation district, which will serve to create a long-term maintenance plan and permanent dredging program to preserve the reservoir's capacity and water quality. While there has been progress in recent years regarding dredging in the reservoir and its tributaries, there is a need for a long-term plan and an ongoing maintenance program.

### Bill Status Hotline

The Legislative Reference Library introduced a bill status hotline: 877-824-7038 (toll-free in Texas)

State Updates

COVID-19 Vaccine Provider Map



Click the image to view an interactive map

If you would like to register for a COVID-19 vaccine, please click here.

# Sales Tax Holiday for Emergency Supplies: April 24-26



#### Sales Tax Holiday for Emergency Supplies, April 24-26

With the potential for severe weather approaching, Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar reminds Texans they can purchase certain items tax-free during the state's sales tax holiday for emergency preparation supplies, which begins at 12:01 a.m. on...

#### Read more

comptroller.texas.gov

Secretary Hughs Encourages Texans To Vote Early, Prepare To Cast A Ballot In The May 1st Election



#### **Secretary Hughs Encourages Texans To Vote Early**

Texas Secretary of State Ruth R. Hughs today encouraged all eligible Texas voters to take advantage of the early voting period ahead of the May 1st election, which begins on Monday, April 19th and ends on Tuesday, April 27th.

#### Read more

www.sos.state.tx.us

# Governor Greg Abbott Announces Star Of Texas Nominations



Office of the Texas Governor | Greg Abbott

#### **Governor Greg Abbott Announces Star Of Texas Nominations**

Governor Greg Abbott today announced that nominations for the 2021 Star of Texas Awards, which honor peace officers, firefighters, emergency medical first responders, and federal law enforcement who were seriously injured or killed in the line of ...

#### Read more

gov.texas.gov

# City of Houston & Harris County Updates

Harris County Public Health Dashboard



# Lake Houston Safety Plan - Know Your Zones

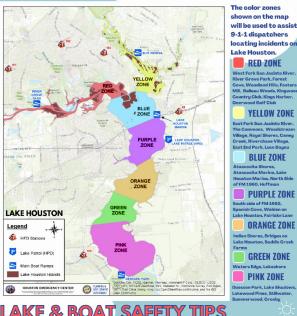
The "Lake Houston Safety Plan" (left) promotes lake safety by improving geographical awareness to residents and recreational users preparing them to better identify their location on the lake and how to best report an incident to 9-1-1.

The map of Lake Houston identifies seven geographic areas by color for residents to use when needing to identify their position on the lake. This map was completed in collaboration with City of Houston Mayor Pro Tem Martin's District E Office, Houston Fire Department, Houston Police Department and Lake Patrol Division, Houston Emergency Center, Houston Public Works, and our partners in the Harris County Sherriff's Office.

The colored zones will be essential when contacting first responders to help reduce **response time**. This map will be posted at all public docks/piers and offered to private communities for installation within their own private launch areas. The dispatchers at Houston's Emergency Center have been notified of the Lake Houston Zones and have already started their training.

These maps have also been provided to all Lake Houston first responders and will be posted at public boat ramps. The City of Houston Public Works Department has prepared signage to be placed on the sides of bridges crossing Lake Houston and the San Jacinto River with the names of corresponding roadways which will be highly visible from the water. Signage should be in place by Memorial Day.





Lake Houston is patrolled by the Houston Police Department's Lake

#### • WEAR A LIFE JACKET, IT'S THE LAW. • FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF WITH THE LAKE.

- MAKE SURE PEOPLE KNOW WHERE YOU ARE GOING MAKE SURE YOUR BOATS WEIGHT IS BALANCED.
- DON'T GET CAUGHT IN THE DARK, KNOW WHAT TIME THE SUN SETS.
- ALWAYS CHECK FOR WEATHER, WIND, AND SMALL-CRAFT ADVISORIES.
- PREPARE FOR ANYTHING AND MAKE SURE YOU HAVE A FIRST-AID KIT.



# District 127 Updates

COVID-19 Vaccination Drive on April 20

# Precinct 4 COVID-19 Moderna Vaccination Site



# Tuesday, April 20, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

First United Methodist Humble 800 E. Main St., Humble

#### **REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED**

Call 281-350-1029 to register.
Walk-in appointments are NOT available.

The second Moderna vaccine will be given Tuesday, May 18, 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.



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